

May Beautification Winner

Larry and Cindy Svajgr, 337 Leslie Avenue, West Lafayette

The attractive landscaping surrounding the home at 337 doesn't hint at the surprising back yard and the history of this area. Prior to 1950, this block was part of the West Lafayette High School Arboretum. During the early '50's, the School Board sold the forested property to developers and the new homes in this area were built among towering mature trees, which can be seen behind the house. The Svajgrs moved here in 1989, having spent the first 15 years of gardening north of Sagamore Parkway. They have seen several climate differences between the two locations.

Larry has spent many years filling in the bones of the landscape with new trees such as Japanese maple and serviceberry, and learning what plants do well in deep shade. Their orange tulips are a highlight of early spring as is the magnolia in the front yard. Ornamental grasses are a favorite of the couple as are the hardy and dependable Annabelle hydrangeas. Future garden projects include the sloping back gardens as well as concerns for their large ash trees.

